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The GUARDIAN.

Bonum eſt fugienda aſpicere alieno in malo. Publ. Syr.

Saturday, Auguſt 29. 1713.

HAving, in my Paper of the 21ſt of *July*, ſhew'd my Diſlike of the ridiculous Cuſtom of garniſhing a new-married Couple, and ſetting a Gloſs upon their Perſons, which is ſo laſt no longer than the Hony-Moon; I think it may be much for the Emolument of my Diſciples of both Sexes, to make them ſenſible in the next place, of the Folly of launching out into extravagant Expences, and a more magnificent way of Living immediately upon Marriage. If the Bride and Bridegroom happen to be Perſons of any Rank, they come into all Publick Places, and go upon all Viſits, with ſo gay an Equipage, and ſo glittering an Appearance, as if they were making ſo many Publick Entries. But to judicious Minds, and to Men of Experience in this Life, the gilt Chariot, the Coach and Six, the gawdy Liveries, the Supernumerary Train of Servants, the great Houſe, the ſumptuous Table, the Services of Plate, the Embroidered Cloaths, the rich Brocades, and the Profuſion of Jewels, that upon this occaſion break out at once, are ſo many Symptoms of Madneſs in the happy Pair, and Prognoſtications of their future Miſery.

I remember a Country Neighbour of my Lady *Lizard's*, Squire *Wiſeacre* by Name, who enjoyed a very clear Eſtate of 500*l. per Ann.* and by living frugally upon it, was before-hand in the World. This Gentleman unfortunately fell in Love with Mrs. *Fanny Flippant*, the then reigning *Toaſt* in thoſe Parts. In a Word, he married her; and, to give a laſting Proof of his Affection, conſented to make both her and himſelf miſerable, by ſetting out in the high Mode of Wedlock. He, in leſs than the ſpace of five Years, was reduced to ſtarve in Priſon for Debt; and his Lady, with a Son and three Daughters, became a burden to the Parish. The Conduct of *Frank Foreſight* was the very Reverſe to Squire *Wiſeacre's*. He had lived a Batchellor ſome Years about this Town, in the beſt of Companies; kept a Chariot and four Footmen, beſide his Saddle Horſes; he did not exceed, but went to the utmoſt ſtretch of his Income; but, when he married the beautiful *Clarinda* (who brought him a plentiful Fortune) he diſmiſſed two of his Footmen, four of the Saddle Horſes, and his Chariot; and kept only a Chair for the uſe of his Lady. Embroidered Cloaths and laced Linnen were quite laid aſide; he was married in a plain Drugget, and from that time forward, in all the Accommodations of Life never coveted any thing beyond Cleanlineſs and Convenience. When any of his Acquaintance asked him the Reaſon of this ſudden Change; he would anſwer, 'In a ſingle 'Life I could eaſily compute my Wants, and pro-'vide againſt them; but the Condition of Life 'am now engaged in, is attended with a thouſand 'unforeſeen Caſualties, as well as with a 'great many diſtant, but unavoidable Expences.

(Price Two Pence.)

'The Happineſs or Miſery, in this World, of a 'future Progeny, will probably depend upon my 'good or ill Husbandry. I shall never think I 'have discharged my Duty, till I have layed up a 'Provision for three or four Children at leaſt.' But prithee *Frank*, says a pert Coxcomb that stood by, why shouldſt thou reckon thy Chickens before — upon which he cut him short, and replyed, *'Tis no matter; a brave Man can never want Heirs, while there is one Man of Worth living.* This precautious way of reasoning and acting, has proved to Mr. *Freight* and his Lady, an uninterrupted Source of Felicity. Wedlock sits light and easie upon them; and they are at present happy in two Sons and a Daughter, who a great many Years hence will feel the good Effects of their Parents Prudence.

My Memory fail's me in recollecting where I have read, that in some Parts of *Holland* it is provided by Law, that every Man, before he marries, shall be obliged to plant a certain Number of Trees, proportionably to his Circumstances, as a Pledge to the Government for the Maintenance of his Children. Every honeſt, as well as every prudent Man, should do something equivalent to this, by retrenching all superfluous and idle Expences, instead of following the Extravagant Practice of Persons, who sacrifice every thing to their present Vanity, and never are a Day beforehand in Thought. I know not what Delight splendid Nuptials may afford to the generality of the *Great World*; I never could be present at any of them without a heavy Heart; it is with Pain I refrain from Tears, when I see the Bride thoughtlesly jigging it about the Room, dishonoured with Jewels, and dazzling the Eyes of the whole Assembly at the Expence of her Children's future Subsistance. How singular, in the Age we live in, is the moderate Behaviour of young *Sophia*, and how aimable does she appear in the Eyes of Wise Men! Her Lover, a little before Marriage, acquainted her, that he intended to lay out a Thousand Pounds for a Present in Jewels; but, before he did it, desired to know what sort would be most acceptable to her. Sir, reply'd *Sophia*, I thank you for your kind and generous Intentions, and only beg they may be executed in another manner: Be pleased only to give me the Mony, and I will try to lay it out to a better Advantage. I am not, continues she, at all fond of those expensive Trifles; neither do I think the wearing of Diamonds can be any Addition, nor the Absence of them any Diminution, to my Happiness; I should be ashamed to appear in Publick for a few Days in a Dress, which does not become me at all times. Besides, I see by that modest plain Garb of yours, that you are not your self affected with the Gaiety of Apparel. When I am your Wife, my only Care will be to keep my Person clean and neat for you, and not to make it fine for others. The Gentleman, transported with this excellent Turn of Mind in his Mistress, presented her with the Mony in new Gold. She purchased an Annuity with it; out of the Income of which, at every Revolution of her Wedding Day, she makes her Husband some pretty Present, as a Token of her Gratitude, and a fresh Pledge of her Love; part of it she yearly distributes among her indigent and best deserving Neighbours; and the small Remainder she lays out in something useful for her self, or the Children.

This Paper is to be had of Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-house *Tavern in St.* James's-street; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-cross; *Mrs.* Bolter *and Mrs.* Dodd *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Exchange-Ally.

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AT the Request of several Persons of Quality, that came late to the famous Water-Theatre of the late Ingenious Mr. Winstanly, on Thursday last; the same will be performed this Evening at 5 of the Clock, viz. the Mathematical Barrel will be turned into a Tavern, entertaining the Pit and Boxes with 6 sorts of Wine, Biscuits, Spaw-water; afterwards it is a Coffee-house, with a flying Cupid attending, who presents the Spectators with Coffee and Tea, and News Papers. There is a descending Venus with a Heart in her Hand, which burns and flames in the Water; and a flying Dragon, out of whose Mouth comes Water, Fire and Perfumes among them, before a great Tempest of Thunder and Lightning, and Enterlarding with many Cascades of Water, to the Expence of 300 Tuns extraordinary. Boxes this Night 3 s. Pit 2 s. 6 d. First Gallery, 1 s. 6 d. Upper Gallery 6 d. This is at the lower End of Piccadilly, towards Hide Park, and is shewn for the Benefit of a Widow. And will be shewn for three Days and no longer this Season.

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